

War or Peace Will Rest with Kaiser, Wilson Note Firm and Uncompromising; German Diplomat Predicts Defiance

BRYCE FINDS GERMANS WAGE FIENDISH WAR

Report of Ex-Ambassador's Committee on Atrocities.

MANY WOMEN AMONG VICTIMS

Horrors Reported from Belgium and Northern France Proved.

German officers and men are declared to have been proved guilty, during the invasion of Belgium, of almost every conceivable form of outrage, in the report of the British commission, headed by Viscount Bryce, and made public yesterday. Among the crimes specifically charged are:

Deliberate massacres of unoffending civilians, murders and abuse of civilians, including women and children; violation of women, mutilation of the corpses of the victims, looting, systematic incendiarism without military justification, killing wounded and prisoners, abuse of the Red Cross and white flags, and using civilians, including women and children, as shields for forces advancing exposed to hostile fire.

The men who have issued this report are among the best known jurists and historians of Great Britain. At their head is Viscount Bryce, ex-Ambassador to the United States and famous as the author of "The American Commonwealth." The other members are Sir Frederick Pollock, Sir Edward Clarke, Sir Alfred Hopkinson, H. A. L. Fisher, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sheffield, and Harold Cox and Kenneth E. Digby.

Since December 15 last, the commission has investigated a mass of data. These were depositions by Belgian refugees, affidavits of British soldiers who were eyewitnesses to German atrocities, and diaries taken from the bodies of German soldiers.

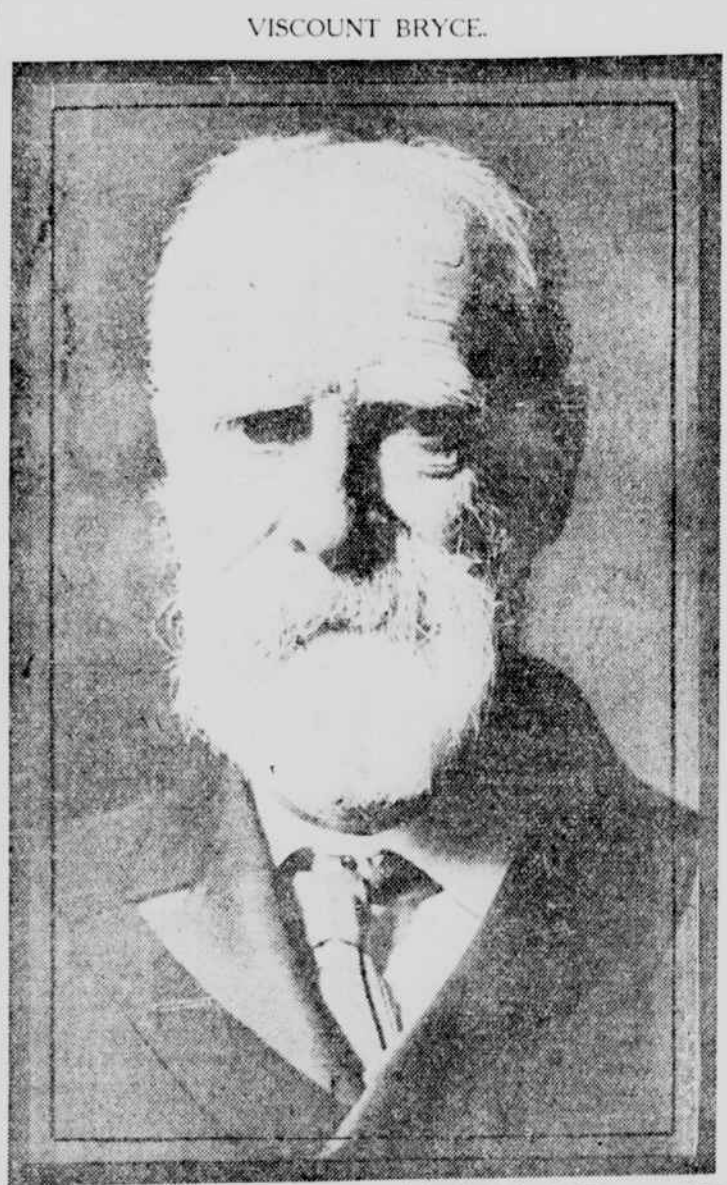
In its foreword to the report the commission states that it went about its work with some skepticism at first. The testimony, however, was so indubitable that its members were forced to believe the most horrible reports had at least a groundwork of truth.

"The force of the evidence is cumulative," the commission says. "Its worth can be estimated only by perusing the testimony as a whole. The experienced lawyers who took the depositions tell us that they passed from the same stage of doubt into the same stage of conviction. They also began their work in a skeptical spirit, expecting to find much of the evidence colored by passion or prompted by an excited fancy. But they were impressed by the general moderation and matter-of-fact levelheadedness of the witnesses."

No statements were admitted by the commission as evidence unless they were supported by affidavits and the examiners had good reason to believe that the witnesses were wholly reliable.

PART I. The Conduct of the German Troops in Belgium.

In 1911 the Belgian Minister at Berlin had requested an assurance from Germany that she would observe the treaty of 1839, and the Chancellor of the empire had declared that Germany had no intention of violating Belgian neutrality. Again, in 1913, the German Secretary of State at a meeting of a budget committee of the Reichstag had declared that "Belgian neutrality is provided for by international conventions and Germany is determined to respect those conventions." Finally, on July 31, 1914, when the danger of war between Germany and France seemed imminent, Herr von Bülow, the German Minister in Brussels, being interrogated by the Belgian Foreign Department, replied that he knew of the assurances given by the German Chancellor in 1911 and that he "was certain



Ex-Ambassador to the United States and head of the British commission which yesterday reported that legal evidence proved the Germans guilty of unspeakable outrages on Belgian civilians, women and children.

WILSON'S PRIDE A BITTER JEST IN MUSIC HALL

London Scoffs and Curses at President's Speech at Philadelphia.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)
London, May 12.—"The Evening News" has a cartoon showing the whiskered von Tirpitz in voluble conversation with the moustachioed Uncle Sam in the background, looking on the other way across the ocean. Underneath is the following dialogue:
Von Tirpitz—I've just given that fellow an awful smack.
Wilhelm—Ah, and what does he say?
Von Tirpitz—He says he's too proud to fight.
Wilhelm—Good! Then you can smack him again.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)
London, May 12.—In one of London's great music halls last night two comedians became engaged in a violent stage quarrel. They were about to attack each other fiercely, when one suddenly turned from his antagonist, walked away, and exclaimed:
"I'm too proud to fight!"
The audience laughed heartily.
It is doubtful if ever there has been a phrase from a public man so inept. It has taken a firm hold here. London was an unhappy place for Americans to-day. On every side the remark was bandied about, discussed, laughed at and cursed.

President Wilson's explanation of his Philadelphia words, that if America has a true sense of national honor, "if America is too proud to fight, let us at least be thankful for King Albert's shocking loss of dignity," says the "Evening Globe." While sober minds manage to grasp the true meaning of the President's words and realize they do not necessarily apply to the present situation, and certainly not in the manner which the public has seized upon them, it is perfectly obvious that the general public has been deeply impressed.

Should it happen that America does not go to war, there is very grave danger that the British nation will forever make reparations for beyond anything now considered possible.
National Honor at Stake.
In the present state of the English mind, anything but war on the part of America is incomprehensible. If America has a true sense of national honor, it is perfectly obvious that the general public has been deeply impressed.

LONDON CROWDS WRECK GERMAN SHOPS IN RIOTS

150 Stores Looted as Blaze of Revenge Sweeps East Side.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)
London, May 12.—Although it might appear a wild statement to make, it really is true to say that England has awakened to the fact that the war is proceeding and she is in it. The Lusitania's sinking and the South End bombs have done what all appeals and threats at recruiting meetings have failed to accomplish.
The entire country is ablaze with red-hot anger of a type that doesn't go out. Probably never before has public opinion made itself so unmistakably felt and it has had the effect in a few hours of making the government realize that its entire course of action is in question.

In the House of Commons to-day it was agreed by members of all parties that Premier Asquith's statement that the segregation or internment of Germans was being considered could only mean one thing: that to-morrow he will announce that every German in England is to be put under guard.
From the German point of view this is the best thing that could happen here. It is not the slightest exaggeration to say that every German, naturalized or not, walking the streets to-day does so at the imminent peril of his life, and this despite all the efforts of police and military.

The people have now taken matters into their own hands. In every quarter of London rioting is going on. In Poplar alone over twenty constables were severely hurt in trying to protect German shops. Jewellers' premises were looted and the goods were thrown into the gutter. German pianos also went into the streets and some Germans, trying to hide under mattresses, shared a similar fate.
Clergymen and priests intervened, but absolutely unavailing.
One baker's shop, kept by William

AUSTRIA CALLS HOME SHIPS IN ITALIAN PORTS

War Before May 26, Is Forecast from Rome.

VIENNA SENDS FINAL TERMS

Victor Emmanuel's Cabinet Believed to Have Reached Decision.

Geneva, May 12.—The Austrian government has issued an order that all Austrian ships in Italian waters proceed at once to Trieste or Pola.
Germans arriving in Switzerland from Italy say it is no longer safe to speak German on the streets of Milan or Turin, and that several Germans have been handled roughly by crowds. Two are reported to have narrowly escaped lynching at Brescia.
The Swiss government is to-day sending more troops to points on the southern frontier of the republic, especially to Lugano, because of anti-German demonstrations. It is estimated that 10,000 Germans from Italy are in and near Lugano. The Lugano police apparently are finding difficulty in dealing with the crowds. Several thousand Italians are at Lugano waiting for trains to take them back to Italy.
Italian steamers are bringing from Zara, in Dalmatia, hundreds of Austro-Italians, who are fearful of reprisals at the hands of the Austrians.

The correspondent at Rome of the "Journal De Geneve" says he is able to affirm that Italy's intervention in the war has been absolutely decided on. "The government," the correspondent adds, "shortly will take steps which will leave no doubt about Italy's intentions, and the Cabinet appears before Parliament May 26 that body will ratify an accomplished fact."

Austria Submits Her Final Propositions
Rome, May 12 (via Paris).—What is considered the last definite proposal of Austria concerning the territorial concessions demanded by Italy was received to-day by the Italian government.
The Cabinet at once went into session to consider the communication. The meeting lasted two hours. At its conclusion no communication was issued, but it is believed the Cabinet decided to go before Parliament and submit the existing situation to that body.
Reports are in circulation to the effect that the Austrian proposition is as follows:
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IRVIN COBB RALLIES WHEN NEAR DEATH

War Correspondent, in Hospital Since May 2, Shows Improvement.

Irvin S. Cobb, war correspondent, is seriously ill at Polytechnic Hospital. He was taken to the hospital May 2, and at times his condition has been alarming. It was said last night that he was much improved.
On Sunday night, it was learned, physicians considered the situation so grave that Mrs. Cobb was called to her husband's bedside. It was thought that he could not live through the night. Since then he has been slowly gaining ground, and his improvement yesterday was marked. Several specialists have been in consultation.

His friends gave a dinner for him on April 26. At that time Mr. Cobb was preparing to return to European battlefields.

FLEET LIKELY TO BE KEPT IN ATLANTIC

Goethals Fears Slides in Canal Might Block Return of Ships—Dredging Still Going On

Washington, May 12.—While Secretary Daniels said again to-night that he had not finally determined to abandon plans for sending the Atlantic fleet through the Panama Canal next month to San Francisco, it is now regarded in official circles as virtually certain that the fleet will be kept on the Atlantic coast.
The day had a further conference during the day with Captain Hugh Rodman, marine superintendent of the canal, who told him that, although a vessel drawing thirty feet of water could be towed through the waterway at this time, the canal was only being used by day, and dredging was going on steadily every night.
Major General Goethals talked with the Secretary yesterday, and it is understood he advised that while it would be possible to put the battleships through now he could give no assurance of what conditions would be in June, and could not promise that the fleet, once through, would not have its return blocked by new slides.

Baron von Schwarzenstein Cables Defence to Tribune



(By Cable to The Tribune.)

Berlin, via the Hague, May 12.—A special cable dispatch to the New York Tribune says:
"In reply to your wireless, I can say that there is universal deep regret in Germany at the loss of human lives in the sinking of the Lusitania. The responsibility rests with England, who, through her plan of starving the entire civilian population of Germany, forced our country to retaliatory measures and answered the German offer to stop submarine warfare if the starvation plan was given up by even a more stringent blockade. England, wrongfully using neutral citizens as a shield against the attacks on the British war supply, must bear the responsibility for the victims to whom she carelessly assured safety on an armed vessel designed for the transportation of war materials and notoriously carrying 5,400 cases of war munitions."

"The Lusitania was warned so timely and so expressly that Germany even risked the success of her undertaking. England ridiculed the warning and promised safety measures, thereby misleading the passengers, and then failed to take proper precautions."

"Germany regrets that Americans disregarded the well meant German warnings and hopes the American government will now warn her own citizens against taking passage on armed British vessels carrying contraband. We are confident that when Americans know the full details there can be nothing in the sinking of the Lusitania to disturb the good feeling between Germany and America."

"(Signed) BARON MUMM VON SCHWARZENSTEIN."
Baron Mumm von Schwarzenstein is Councillor of the German Foreign Office and an intimate friend of the Kaiser.

Dernburg's Use of Mails May Help Send Him Home

Officials Believe He Can Be Deported for Inciting Murder—His Presence Daily Causes Cabinet Greater Irritation.

(From The Tribune Bureau.)
Washington, May 12.—It was learned today that the Department of Justice was carefully searching the statutes to find a way to send Dr. Dernburg away from this country. The efforts of the Department of Justice are the result of a discussion of Dr. Dernburg and his utterances at yesterday's Cabinet meeting, where the irritation over his conduct was most pronounced.
The most feasible way to get rid of Dr. Dernburg that has been discovered by the Department of Justice is by his use of the mails to disseminate his propaganda. Under Section 211 of the Penal Code, as amended in March, 1911, the use of the mails for matters of a character "tending to incite arson, murder or assassination" is prohibited under the penalty of five years' imprisonment in jail or a \$5,000 fine.
According to officials, Dr. Dernburg's statement at Cleveland on Saturday, justifying the sinking of the Lusitania and asserting that any ship not carrying the American flag would be "as unsafe as a volcano," could be construed as a violation of this section if Dr. Dernburg sent it through the mails.
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